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## (54) Title: BUILDING FRAME AND METHOD OF CONSTRUCTION

## (57) Abstract

This invention relates to metal framing (2, 3, 4), in particular steel framing for building construction. The invention also relates to a method of constructing a metal frame assembly (2, 3, 4) and roll forming apparatus (41) for producing metal framing for building construction. The individual components of the metal frame (2, 3, 4), and assembly made from these components is adapted to provide for a substantially even planar surface without deformations, to which a cladding may be attached with a preferred even finish. The invention also includes roll forming apparatus (41) adapted for producing metal framing (2, 3, 4) of this type, and particularly adapted to produce metal frame members (2, 3, 4) having a predominantly C-section profile (7), with one or more portions of a U-section profile (9, 6), the U-section (9, 6) and C-section (7) profiles formed simultaneously on the same sheet metal strip (43). The apparatus (41) is also adapted to form narrowing or swaging of the channel at some or all U-section portions (6). The overall method of constructing a building frame assembly of the invention includes recording data defining a unit area in which a frame assembly is to fit, processing the data to design a frame assembly to fit that unit area, and controlling operation of roll forming apparatus (41) by a computing means using the processed data, to produce frame members (2, 3, 4) cut and formed ready for assembly to produce the required design of frame assembly.

